

F A C T S

WHICH SHEW

THE NECESSITY

O F

Establishing a REGULAR METHOD

F O R

The Punctual, Frequent and Certain PAYMENT

O F

S E A M E N

EMPLOYED IN

The ROYAL NAVY.

Most humbly submitted to the Consideration of Parliament.

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M DCC LVIII.

[Price Six-pence.]

THE NEW SYSTEM
 WHICH SHOWS
 THE PRACTICAL, PRESENT AND FUTURE
 OF THE METHOD

STATE OF THE
 DESERTED
 late Regiment
 between 25 October
 distinguishing
 the circumstances under which they Deserted



DESERTED
 from the Regiment
 late Regiment
 between 25 October
 distinguishing
 the circumstances under which they Deserted
 LONDON
 Sold by W. O. at 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

F A C T S

S H E W I N G

The Necessity of P A Y I N G *punctually,*
frequently and *certainly* the W A G E S
 of S E A M E N Employed in
 The R O Y A L N A V Y.

A S T A T E of the Number of M E N who
 D E S E R T E D from the late Colonel *John Cottrell's*
 late Regiment of Marines, between 25 *October*
 1741, and 23 *February* 1746-7; distinguishing
 the Circumstances under which they Deserted.

D E S E R T E D from the *Quarters of the Regiment*
 or from other Places in Great Britain.

M E N who neither had any Pay due to them nor
 were indebted to their Captains, excepting a
 few *Shillings or Pence*, which could not be Reasons
 for their Deserting — — — — — 110
 Men who had just received Ballances of Sea-Pay, *viz.*
 £ 5 : 3 : 8 — £ 1 : 6 : 6½ — £ 7 : 12 : 8½ and
 £ 1 : 15 : 2 — — — — — 4
 Men who had received small Ballances of Sea-Pay,
 4 or 5 Months before they deserted — — — — — 2

T A T A B Carried forward — 116

Brought forward — 116
 Men who had been at Quarters several Months, having
 Ballances of Sea-Pay due to them, the Nonpayment
 of which seems to have been the Cause of their
 Deserting — — — — — 3

The Total Number of Men who deserted from
 Quarters, &c. is — — — — — 119

DESERTED from His Majesty's Ships of War,
 or while they were borne as Part of the Complements
 of those Ships.

Men who were indebted for Slop-Cloathing, to the
 Amount of 20 or 25 Shillings each upon an Average * 38

* This was the Case of every other Marine upon his going on board of Ship.

Men who had Ballances of Sea-Pay due to them
 when they deserted, which Ballances were thereby
 forfeited to their Captains; at least, the Captains
 thought so, and have received most of the Money,
 amounting in the Whole to near Four Hundred
 Pounds † — — — — — 90

† Eleven of these Ballances are under Ten Shillings each.

The Total Number of Men who deserted from His
 Majesty's Ships of War, &c. is — — — — — 128

The Total general of **DESERTIONS** from this Regiment
 within the abovenamed Time is — — — — — 247

A STATE

A STATE of the Number of **VOYAGES** or **CRUISES** made by **MEN** of the late Colonel *John Cottrell's* late Regiment of Marines on board His Majesty's Ships of War, for which Service they received Ballances of Sea-Pay, upon their Returns to Quarters; distinguishing how many of those Ballances were under *One Pound* each, and how many of them amounted to 1, 2, 3, &c. *Pounds*, omitting the odd *Shillings* and *Pence*.

Voyages N ^o	Ballances Amount	Voyages N ^o	Ballances Amount	Voyages N ^o	Ballances Amount
196	under 1 £.	42	7 £.	22	14 £.
241	1	52	8	10	15
170	2	36	9	8	16
150	3	39	10	11	17
127	4	37	11	6	18
91	5	32	12	6	19
50	6	27	13	15	20
1025		265		78	
28	21 £.	6	28 £.	1	35 £.
27	22	3	29	1	38
13	23	2	30	1	39
7	24	3	31	1	47
6	25	3	32	1	50
9	26	3	33	1	52
3	27	1	34		
93		21		6	

Note,

Note. This State doth not include the Voyages for which there was not any Sea-Pay due to the Men who made them; nor the Parts of Voyages which were made by Men who died or deserted and had Sea-Pay then due them.

The Total Number of these Ballances is 1,488

Deduct, Ballances under Ten Shillings, as too small to induce Men to desert 68

Ballances paid after there was a Certainty of Peace and Prospect of Disbandment 236

394

The Net Number of Ballances by which the Rate of Desertion, after Payment, is to be computed 1,184

The Number of Men who appear to have Deserted upon receiving their Pay is only Three.

So that the Desertion after Payment is at the Rate of One in Four Hundred nearly, and no more.

Whereas the Desertion without being paid, is at the Rate of One in Fifteen, which is 26 Times as many.

From hence it appears very evident, that the speedy and regular Payment of Men doth not encourage them to Desert, but on the contrary induces them to continue in the Service of their Country; for nothing but a Disposition to remain in the Service could have prevented so many Men from Deserting upon the Receipt of their Pay, as they were then on Shore and might have Deserted at any Time.

From hence it also appears, that if the Naval Service be by any Means made unnecessarily disagreeable to Men, they will not continue in it, but make Use of the first Opportunity to Desert, and how weak TIES an Arrear of Pay and the Fear of Punishment are, to Men so situated, appears by Ninety Marines of this Regiment Deserting, though they had Three Hundred and Ninety-one Pounds due to them.

If

If the keeping of Men's Pay *greatly in Arrear* be necessary for the Good of the Service, it must certainly be so in the ARMY as well as in the NAVY, and yet the *Land Forces* are paid in quite another Manner; for a *Private Soldier* receives his *Arrears of Pay* every *Two Months*, though he is provided with Meat, Drink, Cloaths, Lodging and Medicines, and these are all the Things with which *Seamen* are provided in the Navy.

If the speedy and regular Payment of Military Men made them turbulent and riotous, it would certainly be seen in the *Army*, but such Behaviour is rarely found among *Soldiers*, excepting when they are *ill paid* or *ill clothed*; and as to the Levity and Irregularity of *Seamen* on Shore, it seems mistaking the Matter greatly to call this Turbulence or Riot, since it is only an Excess of Joy on their being relieved from Hardships and Sufferings.

The Feelings of every Person who hath been at any Time exposed to *Danger, Toil, or hard Fare* will tell him THIS, and as SEAMEN *suffer most*, it is really cruel to think that THEY *should enjoy the least*, more especially as the *Hardships* they undergo are for the SERVICE and PROTECTION of their COUNTRY, which they ENRICH *in Peace*, and are, under PROVIDENCE, the surest Means of DEFENDING *in War*.

It seems unnatural to think that *Humanity* to *Seamen* would prove detrimental to the Service, for People whose Birthright is LIBERTY will do great Matters with *good Usage*, but very little with *Severity*; and those Naval Officers who have been most remarkable for their HUMANITY have done most for their COUNTRY; of which the late Sir *Peter Warren*, Captain *Cornewal*, Captain *Grenville*, &c. are recent Instances.

It is commonly said, that the well known Humanity of several Captains hath been had Recourse to *for the more speedy Manning of the Navy*, by removing such Gentlemen from the Command of one Ship to another; and if this hath been done by an *Admiralty-Board*,

it is an authoritative Acknowledgement, of what Experience proves,
—that HUMANITY to SEAMEN is for the Good of His MAJESTY's
SERVICE.

A Correspondence between the Civil and Military Laws of a Country, with respect to Lenity or Severity, is so necessary to the effectual carrying on of Military Service, that little Good is to be expected without it; for Men who enter into the Military Service of their Country, do naturally look for a Continuance of the Treatment they have been accustomed to in Civil Life, and will do more with such Treatment than with Better or Worse.

Because that is agreeable to the RULE of Right or Wrong before established in their Minds, which are thereby kept in their usual Temper, but never fail of being vitiated or soured by A NEW RULE of Right and Wrong; and as Human Nature is the same in all Ages, it will not be foreign to the Purpose to say, that, if I remember right, the great Successes of *Scipio Africanus* and *Hannibal* are accounted for upon this Principle by *Machiavel*.

The Mildness of *Scipio* suited with the Genius and Government of the *Romans*, who were Free People, and the Severity of *Hannibal's* Discipline was necessary toward the *Gauls*, &c. because their Government was arbitrary; but Severity never can agree with a Free People, and it will be needless to say what Obligations this Country hath to severe Disciplinarians, after mentioning the Names of General *Br—dd—k* and Admiral *B—ng*.

The great Lord *Bacon* says, that RELIGION, JUSTICE, COUNSEL, and TREASURE, are the Four Pillars of GOVERNMENT, and a Man of ordinary Capacity may perceive that there is much Wisdom and Truth in this Saying; as also, that the punctual, frequent, and certain Payment of BRITISH SEAMEN's Wages would have a most happy Influence upon the Pillar of BRITISH JUSTICE and add Lustre to The THRONE of MAJESTY.

EXTRACTS

EXTRACTS from my PROPOSAL for making
A SAVING to the PUBLIC, of above *One Hundred Thousand*
Pounds, in the Charge of Maintaining HIS MAJESTY'S
MARINE FORCES, &c.

(*For the Information of such Persons as have not read that Proposal.*)

“ The *Naval Charge* for VICTUALLING, WEAR, and TEAR,
“ and SEA-ORDNANCE, was not extended to His Majesty's *Marine*
“ *Forces* during the last War, though those Forces were then, as
“ the present Marine Forces are now, employed on board the ROYAL
“ NAVY, and the CHARGE of Maintaining it was greatly increased
“ by that Means; so that at the End of that War there was a
“ NAVAL DEBT of above FOUR MILLIONS of Pounds to be pro-
“ vided for, and most of that Debt must necessarily consist of increased
“ Charges for Victualling, Wear and Tear, &c. for the Marine
“ Forces, as annual Provision was not then made for those increased
“ Charges.”

“ But as the *Naval Charge* for Victualling, Wear and Tear, and
“ Ordnance, is now extended to the present Marine Forces, and
“ Provision yearly made for the same, there is Reason to hope that
“ no such vast NAVAL DEBT will be incurred, and remain unpro-
“ vided for at the End of the War as there was after the last War;
“ because there will now be about *Four Hundred and Eighty THOU-*
“ *SAND Pounds* a Year MORE Money applicable to the Maintenance
“ of the ROYAL NAVY, so long as 130 Companies of Marines shall
“ continue to be employed, and the Naval Charge for their Victu-
“ alling, &c. continue to be annually provided for by Parliament.”

“ So great an Increase in the Money voted for these Heads of
“ Expence, by rating the Provision for them according to the Num-
“ ber of *Marine Forces* as well as *Seamen* to be employed in the
“ Public Service, must necessarily be productive of good Effects to
“ to PUBLIC CREDIT, &c. as it will very much facilitate the regular
“ Payment of the *Navy and Victualling BILLS*, and greatly contribute
“ to

“ to render such Measures more easily practicable as the *Legislature*
 “ may in their great Wisdom be pleased to take for *the more speedy*
 “ *and better Payment* of SEAMENS WAGES.”—Page 27, 28.

By these Extracts the Reader may see, that the punctual, frequent, and certain *Payment* of the WAGES of SEAMEN employed in the ROYAL NAVY is much more easily practicable at present (so far as depends upon the *Money* voted for NAVAL SERVICE) than it was during the last War; because the Parliamentary annual Provision is now greater, in Proportion to the Number of *Seamen* and *Marines* voted, than it was at that Time, by about *Four Hundred and Eighty THOUSAND Pounds*, for this present Year 1758, but the said Provision was not so much for the Years 1756 or 1757.

S T A T E S of the Numbers of M E N Inlisted or Impressed for late Colonel *John Cottrell's* and late Colonel *John Duncomb's* late Regiments of Marines, in the Years 1744 and 1745, by Virtue of the Impress Acts for those Years.

For Colonel C O T T R E L L's Regiment.

The Number of Men so Inlisted or Impressed for this Regiment, according to a certified List from the War-Office, was	— — — — —	142
Of which Number there deserted, &c. before they joined the Regiment	— — — — —	45
And of those who did join the Regiment, there afterwards deserted	— — — — —	32
Total Number of Deserters	— — — — —	77
The Total Number of those Men who continued in His Majesty's Service	— — — — —	65

For Colonel D U N C O M B's Regiment.

The Number of Men so Inlisted or Impressed for this Regiment, according to a certified List from the War-Office, was	—	29
Of which Number there deserted, &c. before they joined the Regiment	— — — — —	20
Total of those Men who continued in His Majesty's Service	—	9

These

These States shew, how necessary it is for the Good of His Majesty's Service, that Men should go into the Army with a good Will; or, if Compulsion must be used to make them enlist, how expedient it is to get the better of their Dislike, if possible, by mild and gentle Usage, rather than to treat them roughly: For an Apprehension of ill Treatment doth naturally create an Aversion to the Service, and if they meet with what they apprehended, it is not likely that the Army will be much the better for them, supposing they do not Desert; whereas if they find their Apprehensions ill grounded, they may probably take a Liking to the Service, and become good Soldiers.

Imprisoning or Hand-cuffing of Impressed Men may be sometimes necessary, but I am humbly of Opinion, that the poorest *Briton* should not be so used without real Necessity, manifested by some overt Act of his; because it is treating a Man as a Criminal before he hath committed any Crime; nor is the Shame, which Men so treated are thereby exposed to, the only Thing to be considered, for it operates upon the Sufferers Minds much to the Prejudice of the Service; because they will sometime or other be at Liberty, and then, the bitter Remembrance of their Shame will be apt to make them Desert, and must discourage others from enlisting.

For which Reasons, I humbly apprehend, it would be for the Good of His Majesty's Land Service, if Men, who are impressed in the Towns, &c. where they were born or have lived many Years, were not to be imprisoned or hand-cuffed upon any Account, unless they have committed some material Crime: And if they should then Desert, they might afterwards be impressed in other Towns, &c. as Strollers, in which Case there would be a Shew of Reason for imprisoning or hand-cuffing them; but such Treatment, without evident Reason, makes Men ashamed of being seen by the People who have long known them, and is a Sort of Brand that doth not soon wear out of their Minds.

The making of this Distinction would undoubtedly facilitate the Recruiting of His Majesty's Land Forces; and if the PAY of such Soldiers or Marines as die in the Service, and have Money due to them, was to be remitted to their Widows, Children, or other Relations, it would be a great Help to them, and to the Public Service; for the shewing of this just Regard for the Welfare of such Soldiers Families would make a deep Impression on the Minds of common People in general; and as a Number of distressed Families would be thereby enabled to live comfortably, many, who now suffer by the Loss of their Husbands or Sons, would then become strong Advocates for the Service.

This may possibly be thought a Matter of very little Consequence; but the DESERTION of more than HALF of the MEN enlisted for these Two Regiments by Virtue of *Impress Acts*, gives great Reason for thinking otherwise.

And as MONEY so sent to such poor People would have the Effect of a Gift upon the Minds of the Receivers, though really due to them, it would be the Talk of all the poor People in a Neighbourhood, "That HIS MAJESTY, GOD bless Him, had sent Goody Such-a-one Five, &c. Pounds;" so that the SERVICE could not fail of being greatly benefited by these Means, as many People, who were before very indifferent about it, would in that Case *persuade young Men to Enlist, and reproach or discover them*, if they deserted and came back to their native Places for Concealment.

For these Reasons, I humbly apprehend, it would much promote His Majesty's Military Service, if a Beginning was made in this *just and necessary* WORK, especially at this Time, as Multitudes of poor Families are greatly distressed by the long continued Dearness of CORN, and of all Kinds of *common Provision*; and the late Ten Regiments of MARINES furnish a very good Opportunity of doing this, as I believe there is about THIRTY THOUSAND POUNDS still remaining

remaining due to the *Widows, Children, or poor Relations* of *MEN* who enlisted in one or other of those Regiments, and died in the *SERVICE of their COUNTRY*.

I have good Grounds for believing that there is some such large *SUM* still remaining due to those poor People, and as the *PUBLIC* hath paid most of the *MONEY*, there is the greater Reason for taking Care that the same be justly paid to those People to whom it doth of Right belong; especially as the Ignorance or Poverty of those People must have been the Causes of their not applying to obtain that Money, for no Man can imagine that the Relations of Men who enlist for common *Soldiers or Marines* are in such Circumstances as to neglect asking for *Five Pounds or Shillings*, when they know it is owing to them.

It will probably be said, that the doing of this would be impracticable or attended with numberless Difficulties, and it certainly would be so, to find out the Relations of every one of those deceased Marines, but it would not be impracticable or difficult to find out the greater Part of those People; for the *Names, Ages, Trades, Places of Birth, &c.* of *MEN* who enlist, are entered in a Regimental-Book kept by the *Adjutant*; and as to knowing which of those Men died in the *Naval Service*, and may therefore have much *Pay* due to them, the *Marine-Commissary*, his Deputy, or Clerk, can fix and have fixed all such Matters by the Ships Books.

Thus may these two main Things be easily effected, and then it should be inquired what Slop-Cloathing, &c. such deceased Marines received, from the Times of their last going to Sea to the Times of their Deaths, as the Cost thereof and *Two-pence halfpenny* a Week for Stoppages are to be charged against those Men's Sea-Pay; for which Matters, the Regimental-Books of the Men's Sea-Accounts may be referred to, as those Charges are or should be there made in each Man's Account; and I am persuaded that every Marine Officer, who hath a due Regard for the Good of *HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE* and to *COMMON JUSTICE*, will lend a helping Hand in so weighty and laudable an Affair.

So

So that upon the Whole, there are not any great and real Difficulties attendant on this good Work, and as to any artificial Difficulties which may be created by not producing the necessary Books and Papers, it may well become a Question, *Whether or not, the Persons who shall directly or indirectly create such Difficulties, are proper Persons to serve HIS MAJESTY or The PUBLIC, in any Capacity whatever?*

As great Industry may possibly be used to discredit the foregoing STATES of *Deserters* and of *Voyages*, I think it incumbent on me to say, that they are made conformable to the original Books and Papers by which I restated the Accounts of every *Noncommissioned Officer* and *Private Marine* in Colonel *Cottrell's* Regiment; and I shall be ready to prove every material Fact in those STATES, by the said Books and Papers, whenever proper Authority shall require them to be produced for that Purpose, by the Persons in whose Custody they are or may be, and require me to make the said Proof in an open Manner.

WESTMINSTER,
10th April, 1758.

J. Massie.

F I N I S.
4 OC 58



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